

Vire, 1872;—he made his profession as a Benedictine July 12th, 1874. In the Fall 1875 we find him, with his three companions, laying the foundations of a Benedictine Monastery in the Diocese of Bayonne, Bellve sur Joyeuse, which though modest indeed in its beginnings, as the mustard seed of the Gospel, was destined to become one day a mighty tree. His Superiors had recognized his sterling qualities and soon after they called him back to the Mother-house, la Pierre-qui-Vire, to entrust to him the delicate charge of Master of Novices. As such many a one owes him an eternal debt of gratitude.

When in 1880 a godless Government expelled the religious from France, Father Thomas went with his Novices to the "Island of Saints." and it is useless to say that Ireland gave them a welcome, worthy of Green Erin.

Two years afterwards Father Thomas was in Devonshire, England, restoring an old Cistercian House, Buckfast Abbey, and increasing the number of Catholics a hundred fold. In 1848 God demanded of his servant a great sacrifice: America was calling him, and obedient to the voice of his superiors, the answer came: "Here I am." God only knows at what cost this "FIAT" was pronounced.

He labored at Sacred Heart, the last thirteen years of his eventful life, as superior, prior, and abbot. It would take a volume to relate the beautiful examples of virtue by which he edified all. Suffice it to say that he had chosen as model of Charity, the great St. Odilo of Cluny—of Meekness, St. Francis of Sales—of Humility, our Blessed Lord Himself. It was in the "Opus Dei," so much recommended by our holy Father St. Benedict, that Father Thomas most delighted. The church was his dwelling place of predilection. A lasting monument of his zeal and piety is the beautiful church he erected at Sacred Heart to the greatest glory of God, and the Indian School he founded here besides many minor constructions around the monastery; he also built to the right of the Abbey a separate refectory with kitchen below—and brought over from